

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

Claim 1. A method of playing a gaming machine in which a bonus round includes an apparent game of skill or knowledge comprising:

- a) a player making a wager to play the gaming machine;
- b) activating the gaming machine to cause a game of chance to occur;
- c) determining an outcome of the game of chance;
- d) if the outcome awards the player with the bonus round, selecting an amount of a bonus payout to be paid to the player during the bonus round; and
- e) allowing the player to participate in the apparent game of skill or knowledge at the end of which the player receives the bonus payout.